

ELLAND URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1944.

Vital Statistics

(a) Live Births 330.

	<u>Elland</u>	<u>National</u>
The live birth rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population (17860) is	13.5	17.6

There were 16 illegitimate births.

(b) Still Births 13.

The still birth rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population is	0.7	0.5
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(c) Deaths 265

The civilian death rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population is	14.8	11.6
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<u>Causes of Death</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis	4	1	5
Influenza	1	1	2
Cancer	27	25	52
Inter cranial vascular lesions	14	20	34
Heart disease	30	38	68
Diabetes		1	1
Other diseases of circulatory system	8	2	10
Bronchitis	6	9	15
Pneumonia	2	4	6
Other respiratory diseases	1		1
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	3	1	4
Other digestive diseases	1	4	5
Nephritis	7	9	16
Premature Birth	2	1	3
Con. Mal. Birth injury	3	5	8
Suicide	1		1
Road traffic accidents	1		1
Other violent causes	5	2	7
All other causes	12	14	26
	<u>128</u>	<u>137</u>	<u>265</u>

There were 18 inquests during the year.

(d) Infant Mortality rate (under 1 year) 13.

The rate per 1000 live births is	39.4	46.0
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There were no deaths from maternal causes.

General Provision of Health Services for the area.

The following Officials are employed by the Council :-

Medical Officer of Health	Frederick Clegg M.B., Ch.B. (Leeds)
Sanitary Inspectors	H.E. Moses, A.R. San. I. A.D. Jackson, A.R. San. I.

Nurses and Midwives supplied by the County and Voluntary Nursing Associations serve the district.

Free pathological and bacteriological services are provided at County Hall. These services are also obtainable from Dr. H.V. Phelon at the Royal Halifax Infirmary, at a charge.

The Council has its own Ambulance for general and accident cases and no charge is made. At least 4 other ambulances are available for payment.

Three Hospitals viz:- The Royal Halifax Infirmary, Halifax General Hospital and Huddersfield Royal Infirmary are accessible and commonly used. Leeds General Infirmary, twenty miles away, is also available.

The Brighouse Isolation Hospital is in common use by the Council. The Halifax and Huddersfield Isolation Hospitals are also available.

The Council share a Smallpox Hospital with other Local Authorities.

There is a Venereal Clinic in Halifax and Huddersfield.

In both Elland and Greetland the County have an Infant Welfare Centre. Sessions are held weekly. Once per month an Ante Natal is held in each place. A lady doctor is in charge.

The usual School Dental services are provided and extractions are undertaken by honorary dentists at the Royal Halifax Infirmary and at the General Hospital at Halifax.

Sanitary Circumstances of the area.

Water

Bulk supplies are obtained from the Halifax and Huddersfield Corporations. Two small reservoirs at Stainland and Upper Greetland also serve the district. The supply in all cases is satisfactory in both quantity and quality. No extensions have been made during the year.

During the year, 141 Chemical and 28 Bacteriological examinations of public water supplies were made by the Public Analyst, all of which were satisfactory.

Closet Accommodation

These may be classified as follows :-

	1945.	1944.
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(a) Privies with open middens	6	6
(b) Pail tub closets	460	466
(c) Privies with covered middens	91	91
(d) Waste water closets	368	368
(e) Water closets	4700	4681

There have been 19 conversions to water closets from existing closets.

Public Cleansing

Public scavenging operated throughout the district at a year's cost of £4989.

The refuse was disposed of as follows :-

Destruction	47%
Tipping	33%
Farmers	20%

Shops and Offices

The Sanitary Inspectors paid 246 visits to shops (excluding butchers) under the Shops Act, 1934.

In seven cases unsatisfactory conditions were found. These have since been remedied.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There is one public swimming bath in the district, owned by the Urban District Council. The water is kept in a clean

condition by a Bells Chlorination and Filter Plant.

2 Chemical and 2 Bacteriological samples taken during the year were all satisfactory.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

(a) Meat and other Foods

The private slaughterhouses in the district were not used during 1945 owing to the operation of the Orders of the Ministry of Food.

All home killed and imported meat is obtained from the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse and Depot at Brighouse. Meat received in the district is regularly inspected at the Distribution Depot, in transit, and at the butchers shops. The general standard has been found good and satisfactory.

143 Food Complaints were investigated under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and the total weight condemned was 1 ton 17 cwt. 20 lbs.

(b) Milk Supplies

There are 89 registered milk sellers in the district and 17 registered wholesale traders.

The number of cow keepers is 94, who house 1152 milk cows in 122 cow-sheds.

243 cow-shed inspections were made.

There are 3 licences in force for the production of Tuberculin Tested Milk and 16 for Accredited Milk.

81 milk samples were taken by the Sanitary Inspectors under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 - 3 were adulterated. There was one prosecution and 2 cautions were issued by the West Riding County Council.

The structural conditions of the cow-sheds are generally good, cleanliness and methods being generally of a good standard. Conditions could be improved by the more general adoption of steam sterilization of equipment.

Tuberculosis

The following is a summary showing the notifications, removals and number on the register at the 31st. December 1944.

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Number on register at 1st. Jan. 1944.	37	33	47	26
Notifications during year	<u>9</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>
Cases removed during year	<u>46</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>28</u>
Cases remaining on register at 31st. Dec. 1944.	<u>43</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>28</u>

Infectious Diseases

The following notifications were received during 1944:-

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	55
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	6
Acute Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	23 (6 deaths)
Puerperal Pyrexia	..	...	...	...	2
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	5
Respiratory Tuberculosis	16 (4 deaths)
Other forms of Tuberculosis	5 (1 death)

Measles	95
Whooping Cough	11
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					<u>196</u>

Measles were epidemic in December 1944.

There were 20 cases sent to Isolation Hospital as follows :-

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	15
Diphtheria	...	...	...	4
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	<u>1</u>
				<hr/>
				20

Cases are sent to Hospital:-

- (a) If they were seriously or dangerously ill and in consequence need hospital treatment.
- (b) If they cannot be effectively isolated or nursed at home.
- (c) If they infectious disease is acquired whilst in one of the town hospitals.

Diphtheria Immunisation

Immunisation against diphtheria was carried out at the 2 Infant Welfare Centres, at the Schools, and by private practitioners, with the following results :-

Number of Children (under 5) immunised	191	making 68%
" " " (5 - 15) "	<u>22</u>	making 72%
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		<u>213</u>

FREDERICK CLEGG, M.B., Ch.B.,
 Medical Officer of Health,
 Council Offices,
Elland.

